PENGUIN YOUNG READERS

LEVEL 2
PROGRESSING READER

Strawberry Shortcake Ballet School

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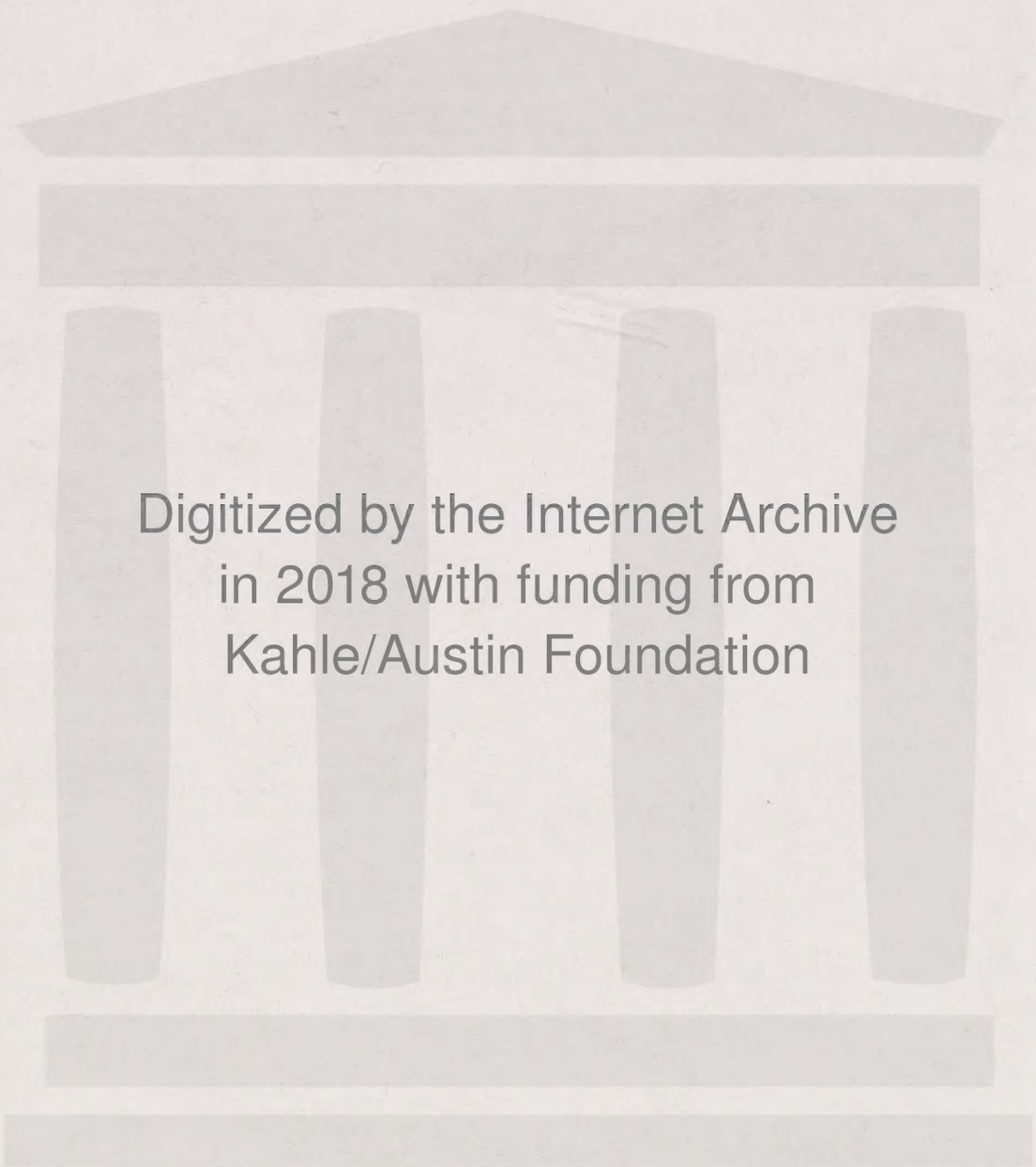

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Dear Parents and Educators,

Welcome to Penguin Young Readers! As parents and educators, you know that each child develops at his or her own pace—in terms of speech, critical thinking, and, of course, reading. Penguin Young Readers recognizes this fact. As a result, each Penguin Young Readers book is assigned a traditional easy-to-read level (1–4) as well as a Guided Reading Level (A–P). Both of these systems will help you choose the right book for your child. Please refer to the back of each book for specific leveling information. Penguin Young Readers features esteemed authors and illustrators, stories about favorite characters, fascinating nonfiction, and more!

Strawberry Shortcake™ Ballet School

LEVEL 2

GUIDED READING LEVEL G

This book is perfect for a **Progressing Reader** who:

- can figure out unknown words by using picture and context clues;
- can recognize beginning, middle, and ending sounds;
- can make and confirm predictions about what will happen in the text; and
- can distinguish between fiction and nonfiction.

Here are some **activities** you can do during and after reading this book:

- Comprehension: Answer the following questions about the story:
  - Why is Lemon Meringue sad?
  - How do Lemon's friends try to cheer her up?
  - What lesson does Lemon learn at the end of the story?
- Character Traits: Make a list of words that describe Lemon Meringue. Then come up with a list of words to describe each of Lemon's friends.

Remember, sharing the love of reading with a child is the best gift you can give!

—Bonnie Bader, EdM
Penguin Young Readers program

*Penguin Young Readers are leveled by independent reviewers applying the standards developed by Irene Fountas and Gay Su Pinnell in *Matching Books to Readers: Using Leveled Books in Guided Reading*, Heinemann, 1999.

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ALWAYS LEARNING PEARSON

PENGUIN YOUNG READERS
LEVEL 2
PROGRESSING READER

Strawberry Shortcake™

Ballet School

by Sierra Harimann
illustrated by Lisa Workman

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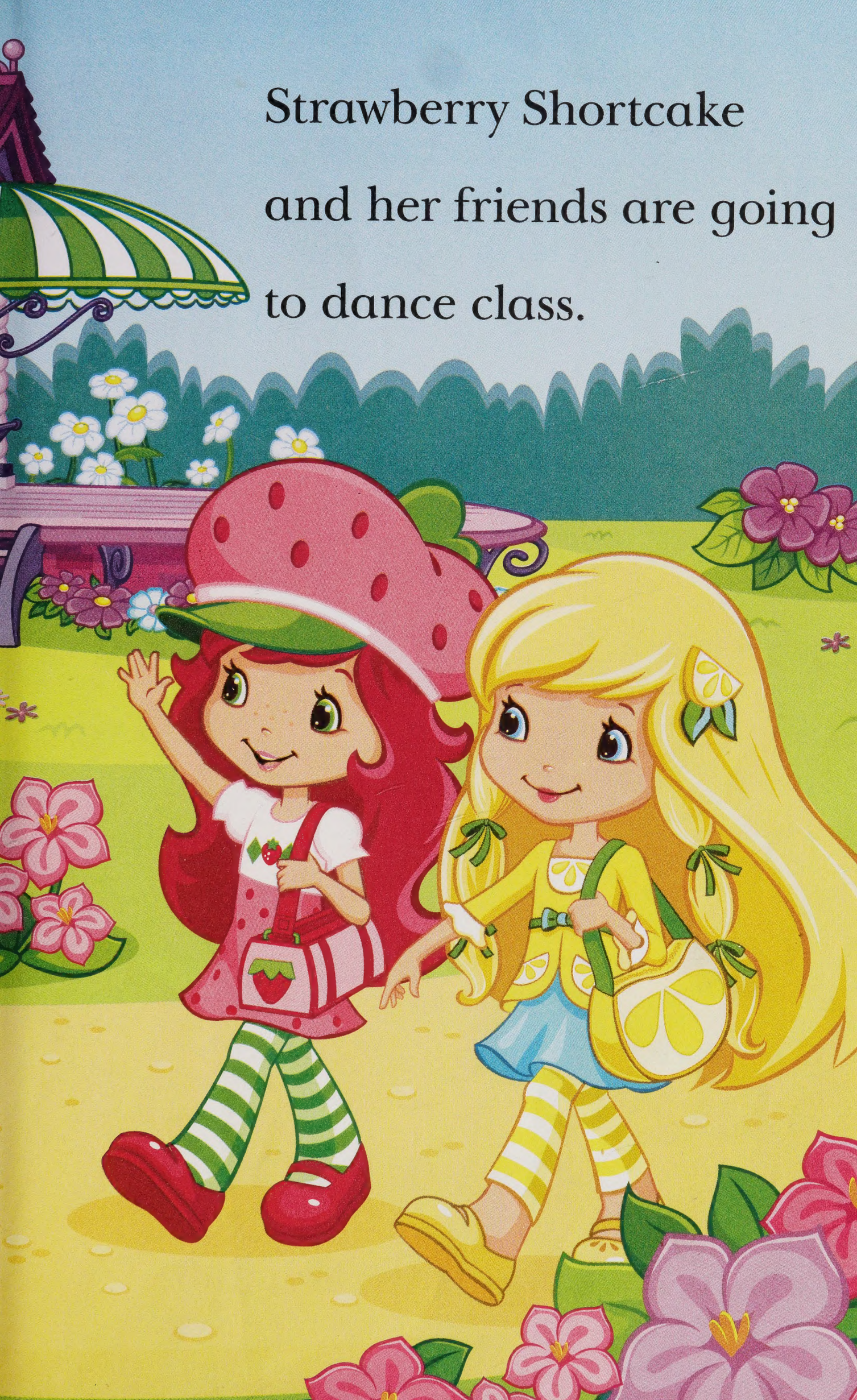
Strawberry Shortcake and her friends are going to dance class.



Plum Pudding is the teacher.

The girls are ready.

It is time to dance!

The music starts.

The girls move to the beat.

Up and down.

Up and down.

Next, the girls put

their hands on their hips.

Then they point their toes.

Tap, tap, tap.

A new song starts.

The girls skip across the room.

Skip, skip, skip, skip.

One, two, three, four.

Now it is time to leap.

Blueberry Muffin

and Strawberry go first.

They leap berry high.

Next, Lemon Meringue leaps.

Lemon wishes she could

leap higher.

Orange Blossom leaps.

Raspberry Torte leaps, too.

Lemon is not having fun.

Plum asks Lemon why she is sad.

Lemon says she is

not good at ballet.

Lemon's friends tell her

she is good at lots of things.

Orange says Lemon

is a good friend.

Strawberry says Lemon

makes the best hair braids.

Raspberry says Lemon

is a berry good listener.

But Lemon is still sad.

Plum tells Lemon

she can be good at ballet, too.

She just has to practice,

try her berry best,

and have fun!

Next, the girls do spins.

But Lemon is having trouble.

Lemon tries another spin.

This time, she does better.

Lemon is doing her best.

She is having a good time!

Everyone thanks Plum

for a great ballet class.

It was berry, berry fun!

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READER

READERS

Ballet School

Strawberry Shortcake
and her friends love ballet.
But Lemon Meringue
thinks ballet is too hard.
Can Strawberry Shortcake
help Lemon Meringue?

LEVEL 1

Emergent Reader (Guided Reading Levels A–D)

LEVEL 2

GUIDED READING LEVEL

E F G H I

Progressing Reader

- Longer sentences
- Simple dialogue
- Picture and context clues
- More in-depth plot development
- Nonfiction and fiction

LEVEL 3

Transitional Reader (Guided Reading Levels J–M)

LEVEL 4

Fluent Reader (Guided Reading Levels N–P)

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